

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An information providing device for providing information on an exercise which ~~is surmised to be~~ possibly is to be overcome by a user, from among a plurality of exercises requiring the user to deal with characters individually within a time predetermined ~~individually~~, comprising:

a storage means for storing data on the number of characters which is required in each of said exercises;

a measuring means for measuring ~~said~~ a predetermined ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of said user~~;

a retrieval means for retrieving ~~the data~~ in the storage means which can be dealt with by the ~~basic~~ predetermined ability of the user measured by said measuring means within ~~said a~~ predetermined time, ~~from among the data stored in said storage means~~; and

an output means for outputting information on the exercise corresponding to the data retrieved by said retrieval means.

2. (Original) The information providing device according to claim 1, wherein said output means is a display means.

3. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~basic~~ predetermined ability is an ability to read characters.

4. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 1, wherein said exercise is an examination held within a an examination time.

5. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 1, wherein said exercise is a preparation course for an examination which is to be held no later than ~~the~~ an examination date.

6. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 3, wherein said exercise is a book lent by a library having a returning time limit ~~lent by a library~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 1, further comprising a training means for training ~~said predetermined basic ability~~ the user to deal with characters ~~of said user~~:

wherein said measuring means measures said predetermined ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of the user~~ after the training by said training means;

wherein said retrieval means retrieves data which can be dealt with by the basic ability after the training measured by said measuring means within said predetermined time from among the data stored in said storage means; and

wherein said output means outputs information on the exercise corresponding to said data retrieved after the training.

8. (Currently Amended) An information providing system comprising:

an information communication network;

an information providing device for providing information on an exercise which is ~~surmised to be~~ possibly is to be overcome by a user, from among a plurality of exercises requiring the user to deal with characters individually within a time predetermined ~~individually~~, said information providing device being connected to said information communication network; and

a terminal connected to said information network for outputting said information on the exercise;

wherein said information providing device ~~comprises~~ includes:

a storage means for storing data on the number of characters which is required in each of said exercises;

a measuring means for measuring ~~said~~ a predetermined ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of said user~~;

a retrieval means for retrieving the data which can be dealt with by the ~~basic~~ ability of the user measured by said measuring means within said predetermined time, from among the data stored in said storage means; and

an output means for outputting information on the exercise corresponding to the data retrieved by said retrieval means.

9. (Original) The information providing system according to claim 8, wherein said output means is a display means.

10. (Currently Amended) The information providing system according to claim 8, wherein said ~~basic~~ ability is an ability to read characters.

11. (Currently Amended) The information providing system according to claim 8, wherein said exercise is an examination held within a an examination time.

12. (Currently Amended) The information providing system according to claim 8, wherein said exercise is a preparation course for an examination which is to be held no later than ~~the~~ an examination date.

13. (Currently Amended) The information providing device according to claim 10, wherein said exercise is a book lent by a library having a returning time limit ~~lent by a library~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The information providing system according to claim 8, wherein said information providing device further comprises a training means for training ~~said predetermined basic ability~~ the user to deal with characters ~~of said user~~:

wherein said measuring means measures said predetermined ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of the user~~ after ~~the~~ training by said training means;

wherein said retrieval means retrieves data which can be dealt with by the ~~basie~~ ability user after the training measured by said measuring means within said predetermined time from among the data stored in said storage means; and

wherein said output means outputs information on the exercise corresponding to said data retrieved after the training.

15. (Currently Amended) An information providing method for providing information on an exercise which is ~~surmised~~ to be possibly overcome by a user, from among a plurality of exercises requiring the user to deal with characters individually within ~~the~~ a predetermined ~~individually~~ time, comprising the steps of:

storing data on the number of characters which is required in each of said exercises;

measuring ~~said~~ a predetermined ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of said~~ user;

retrieving the data which can be dealt with by said measured ~~basie~~ ability of the user within a predetermined time, from among said stored data;

outputting information on the exercise corresponding to said retrieved data.

16. (Currently Amended) The information providing method according to claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

training said ~~predetermined-ability~~ user to deal with characters ~~of said user~~;

measuring ~~said predetermined~~ the ability of the user to deal with characters ~~of the~~ user measured after said training;

retrieving the data which can be dealt with by said ~~measured basic~~-ability of the user  
within predetermined time, from among said stored data; and  
outputting information on the exercise corresponding to said retrieved data.